



NEWS RELEASE

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District: District 2 - Redding
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

If you are texting and driving, you will be breaking the law

REDDING – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 2 reminds motorists, effective January 1, 2009 a new law bans writing, sending or reading a text-based communication while driving motor vehicles in the State of California.

This new law applies to devices used to communicate manually with any person using text-based communication, including, but not limited to, text messages, instant messaging or e-mail.

Violators will be fined \$20 for a first offense and \$50 for each subsequent offense. With the addition of penalty assessments, fines can be more than triple the base fine amount.

This new law compliments SB 1613 requiring motorists to use hands-free devices while talking on a mobile phone when driving a motor vehicle.

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NOTE: *An electronic version of this news release is available on the Internet at the following web address: www.caltrans2.info*

